Taluk Headquarters Hospital, Kasargode.

* 2415 Q.—SRI M. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(a) the number of beds provided in the Taluk Headquarters Hospital at Kasargode, South Kanara district;

(b) how many in-patients were treated in the year 1954; and

(c) the average number of patients treated per day?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY: (a) 34, Sir.

(b) 1,810, Sir.

(c) Average number of in-patients—54. Average number of out-patients—348.

SRI M. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR: May I know whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Government to increase the bed-strength of the hospital?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY: There are proposals for the improvement and expansion of Taluk Headquarters Hospitals under the Second Five-Year Plan.

Single point sales tax.

* 2416 Q.—SRI K. T. SREEDHARAN (on behalf of Sri M. Narayana Kurup): Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to substitute single point sales tax in place of multi-point one in respect of any articles and, if so, what those articles are?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU: There is no such proposal.

Baby taxis.

* 2417 Q.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(a) the number of permits issued to baby taxis in the City of Madras during 1954; and

(b) the number of such permits issued in the mufassal?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN: (a) 84.

(b) 52.

Stipends to students in Training schools.

* 2418 Q.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the total amount disbursed as stipends to student-trainees in Secondary and Higher Grade Training Schools in the State during 1954?

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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: The total amount of stipends paid to teacher trainees in Secondary and Higher Grade training schools in the State during 1954–55 was Rs. 35,83,142.

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY: Will it be increased next year?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: The amount I have given represents the total of the stipend given per head. If there are greater number of trainees, certainly the amount will be increased. But, the question whether this stipend should be continued is under the consideration of the Government.

SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN: Is there any disparity in the amount of stipend paid to a non-basic higher grade student-trainee and basic higher grade trainee and if so, will the Government come forward to remove this disparity and give equal stipends to all of them?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Hon. Members may be aware of the programme of the Government to convert all the ordinary higher grade training schools into basic training schools. When that programme is implemented, this anomaly will not exist.

SRI S. R. ARUMUGAM: இந்தப் பயிற்சிப் பள்ளிகளில் மாணவர்கள் ரூ. 1,000 மதிப்புள்ள 'செக்யூரடி' கொடுத்தால்தான் அவர்களுக்கு 'ஸ்டைபெண்டு' கொடுக்கப்படும் என்று சர்க்கார் உத்தரவு ஒன்று இருப்பதாகத் தெரிகிறது. ஹரிஜனங்கள் குறைந்த பட்சமாக ரூ. 1,000 மதிப்புள்ள 'செக்யூரடி' கொடுக்க முடியவில்லை. ஆதலால் ஹரிஜனங்களை பொருத்தவரையில் ரூ. 1,000 மதிப்புள்ள 'செக்யூரடி' கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்ற திட்டத்தை ரத்து செய்து அவர்களுக்கு 'ஸ்டைபெண்டு' கொடுப்பதற்கு சர்க்கார் முன் வருவார்களா?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Every trainee, in view of the stipend he is receiving, is asked to execute a bond undertaking to serve the department for a certain period. It is only in that connexion, the point raised by the hon. Member may arise. I suppose, even Harijans who receive stipends should undertake to serve for a certain period in the teaching profession in the State. Therefore as long as the stipend system continues, this security will have to be taken.

SRI M. PALANIANDI: சாதாரணமாக ஆசிரியர்கள் வேண்டுமென்பதற்காகத்தான் இந்த ஆசிரியர் பயிற்சி பள்ளிகளில் மாணவர்களுக்கு 'ஸ்டைபெண்ட்' வழங்கப்படுகிறது. அப்படியிருக்கையில் நமது கனம் நிதி மந்திரி அவர்கள் ஒரு பெரிய குண்டை போட்டுவிட்டார்கள். அதாவது இனிமேல் இவர்களுக்கு 'ஸ்டைபெண்ட்' கொடுப்பதா, வேண்டாமா என்பதை யோசிக்கவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லிவிட்டார்கள். அப்படியில்லாமல் 'ஸ்டைபெண்ட்' கொடுப்பதற்கு வேண்டிய நன்மையை உருவாக்குமாறு கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Sir, the stipend system was introduced at a time when there was dearth of candidates to take up the teaching profession. But, now hon. Members may be aware that for hundred available seats, there are 1,500 candidates. Not only that. The system of giving inducement to the

trainees to take up teaching profession was thought of at that time when the emoluments were far less. But, to-day, when we have increased their emoluments, they should be allowed to take their chance along with other professions. We do not give stipends in respect of other professions. In view of all these, it will have to be considered whether this inducement of giving stipends to teacher-trainees alone is necessary.

Mineral wealth in the Chalk Hills, Salem district.

* 2419 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether minerals like gold, silver and copper are available in Chalk Hills of the Salem district; and

(*b*) the steps taken by the Government to exploit the above minerals?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: (*a*) The area was surveyed during 1946-47 by the Geological Survey Department and it was found that there was no occurrence of gold, silver and copper in workable quantities in that area.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Gazetted posts in the Home Department.

* 2420 *Q.*—SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN (on behalf of Sri K. Aranganathan): Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the number of Gazetted posts of Deputy Secretary, Joint Secretary and Assistant Secretaries in the Home Department on this date and the number of Malayalees and non-Malayalees in these posts?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: On 29th April 1955, there were on post of Joint Secretary, one post of Deputy Secretary and four posts of Assistant Secretaries in the Home Department. The holders of the posts of Joint Secretary, Deputy Secretary and one of the four posts of Assistant Secretaries were Malayalees. The other Assistant Secretaries were non-Malayalees.

Industries governed by the Minimum Wages Act.

9-30 a.m. * 2421 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the number of industries in the State to which the Payment of Wages Act is applicable?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: The provisions of the Payment of Wages Act, 1936, applied in the first instance to the payment of wages to persons employed in any factory and to persons employed (otherwise than in a factory) in any railway by a railway administration or, either directly or through a subcontractor, by a person fulfilling a contract with a railway administration.